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Nebraska Monthly Unemployment Rate Remains 3.8 Percent

LINCOLN- The Nebraska Department of Labor announced today that Nebraska's preliminary unemployment rate for March is 3.8%, seasonally adjusted. The jobless rate is the same as the February rate and down 0.2% from the March 2012 rate.

"In addition to the state having a consistently low unemployment rate, the Nebraska labor force continues to grow and the number of unemployed Nebraskans within the labor force continues to shrink," said Commissioner of Labor Catherine D. Lang.

Non-farm employment grew by nearly 4,000 jobs since February 2013. The top three private sector industries showing the largest gains over the previous month were Leisure and Hospitality, Mining and Construction and Professional and Business Services.

The seasonally-adjusted national unemployment rate in March was 7.6%, a decrease of 0.1% from February. The March 2012 national unemployment rate was 8.2%.

April 2013 data will be published Friday, May 17.

Labor Force Estimates - National, State, Omaha MSA, Lincoln MSA

Labor Force Estimates - National (Seasonally Adjusted)					
	Prelim	Revised		Changes Since	
	Mar-13	Feb-13	Mar-12	Feb-13	Mar-12
Unemployment Rate	7.6	7.7	8.2	-0.1	-0.6

Labor Force Estimates - Nebraska (Seasonally Adjusted)					
	Prelim	Revised		Change Since	
	Mar-13	Feb-13	Mar-12	Feb-13	Mar-12
Unemployment Rate	3.8	3.8	4.0	0.0	-0.2
Labor Force	1,032,298	1,032,308	1,017,935	-10	14,373
<i>Unemployment</i>	39,007	39,702	40,206	-695	-1,199
<i>Employment</i>	993,291	992,606	977,719	685	15,572

Labor Force Estimates - Omaha MSA (Not Seasonally Adjusted)					
	Prelim	Revised		Changes Since	
	Mar-13	Feb-13	Mar-12	Feb-13	Mar-12
Unemployment Rate	4.3	4.6	4.7	-0.3	-0.4
Labor Force	465,279	466,009	459,479	-730	5,800
<i>Unemployment</i>	19,929	21,488	21,793	-1,559	-1,864
<i>Employment</i>	445,350	444,521	437,686	829	7,664

Labor Force Estimates - Lincoln MSA (Not Seasonally Adjusted)					
	Prelim	Revised		Changes Since	
	Mar-13	Feb-13	Mar-12	Feb-13	Mar-12
Unemployment Rate	3.5	3.8	3.7	-0.3	-0.2
Labor Force	178,830	177,669	174,962	1,161	3,868
<i>Unemployment</i>	6,217	6,720	6,498	-503	-281
<i>Employment</i>	172,613	170,949	168,464	1,664	4,149

NOTE: Data is revised on a monthly basis. Data for previous years is benchmarked annually and is subject to change. MSAs represent Metropolitan Statistical Areas.

Seasonally adjusted data for the Omaha MSA and the Lincoln MSA is available about two weeks following this release. The seasonally adjusted data can be obtained at <http://www.bls.gov/lau/metrossa.htm> or <http://neworks.nebraska.gov/analyzer>.

Micropolitan Statistical Areas (MC)	Counties Included	Mar-13	Feb-13
		(Preliminary)	(Revised)
Beatrice MC	Gage	4.0	4.6
Columbus MC	Platte	3.2	3.6
Fremont MC	Dodge	4.1	4.3
Grand Island MC	Hall, Howard, Merrick	3.6	3.9
Hastings MC	Adams, Clay	3.7	3.9
Kearney MC	Buffalo, Kearney	3.1	3.3
Lexington MC	Dawson, Gosper	4.0	4.7
Norfolk MC	Madison, Pierce, Stanton	3.6	3.9
	Lincoln, Logan,		
North Platte MC	McPherson	3.5	3.9
Scotts Bluff MC	Scottsbluff, Banner	4.2	4.7
Red Willow SA (Small Labor Market Area)	Red Willow, Hitchcock	3.2	3.4

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Next scheduled release is April 2013 data on May 17, 2013.
NDOL press releases are accessible on the Internet at: dol.nebraska.gov

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